

**REMARKS**

This Amendment and Response to Non-Final Office Action is being submitted in response to the non-final Office Action mailed April 19, 2006. Claims 1-20 are pending in the Application.

Claim 11 is objected to for containing informalities as it is unclear as to whether Claim 11 is intended to be directed to a system or a method. Claims 1-6, 8, 9, 11-16, 18, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lu (US 5,815,490).

Claims 7, 10, 17, and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response to the above objections and rejection, the Claims have been amended. These amendments are fully supported in the Specification, Drawings, and Claims of the Application and no new matter has been added. Based upon the amendments, reconsideration of the Application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

**Objection to Claim 11:**

Claim 11 is objected to for containing informalities as it is unclear as to whether Claim 11 is intended to be directed to a system or a method.

Claim 11 has been amended such that it is clear that Claim 11 is a system claim, the claimed system comprising a processor operable for performing various novel functions.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that objection to Claim 11 now be withdrawn

**Rejection of Claims 1-6, 8, 9, 11-16, 18, and 19 Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) - Lu:**

Claims 1-6, 8, 9, 11-16, 18, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lu (US 5,815,490).

Independent Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to recite the limitations of objected to, but otherwise allowable, dependent Claims 10 and 20, as well as intervening dependent Claims 2 and 12, respectively. Specifically, independent Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to recite: wherein the protection mechanism is selected from the group consisting of bi-directional line switched ring (BLSR) protection mechanism, unidirectional path switched ring (UPSR) protection mechanism, 1:1 protection mechanism and 1+1 linear protection mechanism; and wherein when the protection mechanism is one of BLSR and UPSR, the provisioning comprises TDMG provisioning, wherein the TDMG provisioning includes bandwidth provisioning to allow a plurality of bandwidth portions, each bandwidth portion being provisioned with a different protection mechanism.

Lu does not disclose a 1:1 protection mechanism, a 1+1 linear protection mechanism, a BLSR protection mechanism, or a UPSR protection mechanism, wherein when the protection mechanism is one of BLSR and UPSR, the provisioning comprises TDMG provisioning, wherein the TDMG provisioning includes bandwidth provisioning to allow a plurality of bandwidth portions, each bandwidth portion being provisioned with a different protection mechanism.

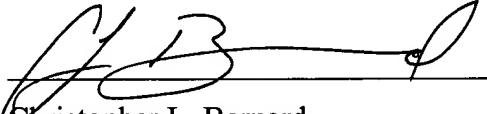
Therefore, Applicants submit that the rejection of Claims 1-6, 8, 9, 11-16, 18, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lu has now been overcome and respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

**CONCLUSION**

Applicants would like to thank Examiner for the attention and consideration accorded the present Application. Should Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place the Application in condition for allowance, Examiner is encouraged to contact undersigned Counsel at the telephone number, facsimile number, address, or email address provided below. It is not believed that any fees for additional claims, extensions of time, or the like are required beyond those that may otherwise be indicated in the documents accompanying this paper. However, if such additional fees are required, Examiner is encouraged to notify undersigned Counsel at Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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